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U.S. Census Bureau

This release contains sensitive economic
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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products
November 2003

The U.S. Census Bureau, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary November steel imports were **\$0.8 billion (1.7 million metric tons)**. This was virtually the same value and an increase of 0.1 million metric tons from the preliminary October totals of \$0.8 billion (1.5 million metric tons).

The October to November change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected increases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Brazil, Mexico, and Korea.

The year to date final statistics through October 2003 showed steel imports of 17.7 million metric tons, a decrease of 6.8 million metric tons from the 24.5 million metric tons through October 2002. The largest commodity decreases were in blooms, billets, and slabs; wire rods; and hot rolled sheets. The largest country decreases were with Brazil, Russia, Mexico, and Japan.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is January 27, 2004